As an adoptee and one who has spent thousands of hours and dollars to learn the truth about my origins, I strongly support SB 113 and all legislation that ends the discriminatory practice of denying me access to an official government record that every other non-adopted person is entitled to possess and that restores my right to obtain my original birth certificate.

In spite of the conspiracy of secrecy, through a chance encounter by a dedicated Search Angel with a legal notice in a local newspaper concerning my birth in 1952 in Washington, D. C. and my subsequent adoption in Maryland, then later, through Ancestry and AncestryDNA testing, I am one of the grateful adoptees who searched and found both my maternal and paternal heritage and have been lovingly welcomed by many family members and has improved my health and well-being immeasurably!

I offer my thanks to the many community organizations and activists that continue to champion this noble cause throughout the USA and would just remind Legislators that, not only are adoptees' and their families health and well-being at stake but also our birth Parents and Grandparents, our siblings and our Aunts and Uncles and Cousins and their family members too who were sentenced for life to endure the cruel and unfair punishment of secrets and shame.

Please feel free to share my story as you may deem appropriate and please feel free to contact me via email <u>truthseeker52@aol.com</u> should you have any questions or wish to know more of my story.

Carol Fox